

<sup>22</sup>  
~~25~~. (Amended) A method according to Claim <sup>20</sup>~~23~~, wherein said copolymer is selected from the group consisting of silane and siloxane copolymers, comprising functionalities selected from the group consisting of polyethyleneglycol (PEG), isoprene, butadiene, lactone, amino, terephthalate, amino acid, heterocyclic, hydride (SiH), thiol and epoxy functionalities.

<sup>23</sup>  
~~26~~. (Amended) A coated substrate produced according to the method of Claim <sup>16</sup>~~16~~.

<sup>24</sup>  
~~27~~. (Amended) A coated cork produced according to the method of Claim <sup>13</sup>~~16~~.

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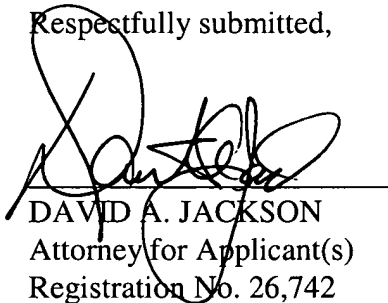
REMARKS

The above amendment is being made to correct the inadvertent failure to change claim dependencies when claims 1-12 were renumbered for submission in place of original Claims 1-15. The claims are now believed to be correct in form and dependency.

Lastly, and in direct response to the Notice, a marked-up version of the claims amendments presented herein is attached.

It is now believed that Applicants are in full compliance for the requirements for proper claims amendments, and accordingly, favorable consideration, and an early Action on the merits are courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Claims 17-27 have been amended:

17. (Amended) A method according to Claim 16, wherein said substrate is selected from the group consisting of a bottle closure, packaging or wrapping material, a bottle and other containers.

18. (Amended) A method according to Claim 16, wherein said substrate is a natural or synthetic cork, and said coating or diffusion layer prevents or inhibits passage of flavor-active or odor-active compounds from said cork to an alcoholic beverage in contact with said cork.

19. (Amended) A method according to Claim [3]18, wherein said flexible component is sufficiently flexible to allow the coated cork to be compressed and then to recover during a bottling process.

20. (Amended) A method according to Claim 16, wherein said flavor-active compounds are trichloroanisoles (TCA).

21. (Amended) A method according to Claim 16, wherein said copolymer is selected from the group consisting of graft, alternating and block copolymers.

22. (Amended) A method according to Claim 16, wherein said flexible component is formed from silicon-based monomers.

23. (Amended) A method according to Claim 16, wherein said copolymer is selected from the group consisting of polyvinylacetate (PVA) copolymers, polyurethane copolymers and

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ionomers, terephthalate copolymers, styrene-acrylonitrile (SAN)/ acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS) copolymers, (vinylidene) copolymers, epoxy copolymers, amide copolymers, Bisphenol copolymers, Bisphenol A (BPA) - epichlorohydrin copolymers, poly (methyl) methacrylate copolymers, poly(methacrylic acid) copolymers, cellulose copolymers, polyethylene vinyl alcohol copolymers, silane copolymers and siloxane copolymers.

24. (Amended) A method according to Claim [8] 23, wherein said copolymer is a polyvinylacetate (PVA) copolymer.

25. (Amended) A method according to Claim [8] 23, wherein said copolymer is selected from the group consisting of silane and siloxane copolymers, comprising functionalities selected from the group consisting of polyethyleneglycol (PEG), isoprene, butadiene, lactone, amino, terephthalate, amino acid, heterocyclic, hydride (SiH), thiol and epoxy functionalities.

26. (Amended) A coated substrate produced according to the method of Claim 16.

27. (Amended) A coated cork produced according to the method of Claim 16.

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